

gross. On the same day I dispatched a pirogue to Monsieur de Bien-ville to inform him as to the condition of the garrison and of the moves I had made; I asked from him a commission to penetrate into the western section in order to make myself secure against events that were liable to supervene."

La Harpe, in this exploring expedition northwestward from the Cadodequians, discovered abundance of coal on his route, and proceeded as far as the Canadian river, of whose lower waters he appears to ^{have} been, ^{September 3rd, 1719,} the first European discoverer. He designated it as the Southwestern branch of the river of the Arkansas.* He struck it above its main

Footnote

*The Arkansas is of course the Arkansas. It was also called ~~Arkans~~ Immeha, Immahan, etc., after a tribe of the Arkansas group of Indians, resident on this river, of Siouan linguistic stock. ~~W. H. S.~~

forks, finding on the main or South Canadian, nine villages, most of which were cognate nations of the Caddoan linguistic stock, whose houses adjoined one another so as to form one great common ~~agricultural village~~ ^{large village} a league in length along the river. These nine nations, La Harpe calls "Touacaras, Toayas, Caumuches, Aderos, Gusitas, Ascanis, Quataquois, Quicasquiris and Honechas". In Beaurain's Journal Historique, the same tribes are named as follows: "Touacaro, Toyas, Caumuche, Ardeco, Gusita, Ascanis, Quataquon, Quitasquiris and Honechas".

The Touacaro appear to have been a northern village of the Indians that have since been more commonly called Tawaconi or Tawakonee; more southerly villages of whom, in later decades of the eighteenth century and earlier decades of the nineteenth, were in east-central Texas. In ~~the~~ authority, but not numerically, they were the principal one of the nine nations at the great ~~village~~ ^{on the Canadian}. The Tehuacano hills in present Limestone county, Texas, at the head of Tehuacano creek, and a Tehuacano creek in present McLennan county, where for many years were villages of these Indians, preserve to us in geography the usual Spanish spelling of the name. La Harpe's form of the name, is seen with the spelling, "Ta-wa-ka-ro", in the 1837 treaty mentioned below. The name, Three Cans, which was sometimes applied to these Indians by Americans in the early part of the nineteenth century, is merely the English translation of Trois Cannes, a French corruption of an equivalent of Tawaconi.

~~variant of the name, apparently, is "Tawakonee". In his testimony given at Anadarko, Oklahoma, in 1894, in the Greer County Case, old Washlee stated that there was a "Tee-wah-uddy" band, and that he was a "Tee-wah-uddy"; while his fellow witness, the chief, Tawakonee Jim, testified, "I belonged to the "Tawakonee".~~

A French name for the Tawakonee

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The Toyas, who were the most numerous at the Village of the nine nations, were long known by various forms of the name (Toyash, Towyash, Taovaise, etc.), being called "Toyash" by the United States dragoons who, under Col. Henry Dodge, visited their village at the western end of the Wichita mountains in 1834; subsequent to which, they became known under the name of the absorbed or absorbent tribe of Wichitas. The Caumuches (or better, Caunouche), according to Dorsey*, were not the Comanches,⁵ but the Nacaniche, a tribe of

Footnote *Dictionary of Indian ~~Y. S. Tribes.~~
 ¶ Caddoan linguistic stock. ¶ The Ardecos may have been the Anadarkoes.*

Footnote *Agent Jesse Stem's report in the 1851 Report of the Commissioner on Indian Affairs, renders the name of this tribe, "Andaicos", though this spelling is possibly a misprint. ^{for Andarcos} Sibley, in 1805, called these Indians, "Nandakoes", and said that they then lived 60 or 70 miles west of the Yattassees. Compare also Joutel's "Nadaco" and "Nondaco" of 1687.

The Ousitas were evidently the tribe that has bequeathed its name to the fused remnants of these and other affiliated tribes, now known as Wichitas.

^{Ascanis and} The Quataquois are unidentified. It is a curious coincidence that Indians of almost identical ^{pronounced} aboriginal name ^{with the latter} were mentioned in the treaty which, in 1837, the United States made with ~~the~~ "the Kioway, Ka-ta-ka and Ta-wa-ka-ro nations"; but according to Mooney*, these

Footnote *Seventeenth Annual Report, Bureau of American Ethnology, Part I, p. 245.

"Ka-ta-ka" of 1837 were the Kiowa-Apaches, whose supposed northern origin precludes, apparently, ~~their~~ identification of them with the Quataquois of La Harpe. *(Of Quidahean, the name of the Kiowa, and Kiltakey of the Kiowa, and Green Col. etc.)*

The Quicasquiris may later have resided on, and have been the tribe that has given name to, the Chicaskia river, a branch of the Salt fork of Arkansas river in southern Kansas and northern Oklahoma.

The Houechas (for which "Honechas" is presumably a clerical or printer's error) are the tribe lately known, in Spanish spelling, as Huecos, or more commonly, in the English spelling, as Wacoos. One of several of their nineteenth century village ^{occupied by them at least as early as the twenties,} locations, has given name to the ^{present} city of Waco, in the McLennan county, Texas, from which location, about the middle of the century, the southern Wacoos moved up the Brazos to the ^{vicinity of the} Clear Fork, where a reservation had been provided for several of the tribes. Contemporary with ~~the~~ the McLennan county village of the thirties and forties, there was also a Waco village on the upper Brazos; and in 1834 there was one apparently not far from the Wichita village at the west end of the Wichita mountains. In 1853, Captain R. B. Marcy found a Waco village at the

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head of Rush creek in the Indian Territory, near one of ~~the~~ Wichitas.

La Harpe made the usual presents to and alliances with all of these nations, who sung him the Calumet. He employed Du Rivage to engrave on a post at their great village, the arms of the King of France and those of the Company of the Indies. According to his observations, the great village was 110 leagues from the Cadodaquious, or more precisely from the Nessonites, by the road his party travelled. He had reached it on the 3rd of September, 1719, had remained there until the 13th, and got back to the Post of the Nessonites on the 13th of October, his party having lost its way returning and been much delayed in difficult country in the mountains, and all of the horses having perished in the journey.

Having travelled, during the last four days of the return journey, on foot, they reached the ~~the~~ Nessonites, says La Harpe, "extremely fatigued by a route so toilsome."

"I found", continues La Harpe, "the corporal of the garrison, Saint-Francois, back from the Natchitoches, and he gave me two letters, one from the Council of Louisiana, the other from Monsieur de Bienville;" of which following is the tenor:

Letter of the Directors to Monsieur La Harpe, Commandant at the Cadodaquious.

"We have received, Monsieur, your letters of the 28th April and the 4th August. We see with pleasure the progress that you are making in the discovery of the country. We can only urge you to continue as you have begun, pursuant to the orders that you have received from the Council of Louisiana, and assure ^{you} that you will find on the part of the Company all the ~~resources~~ ^{resources} that it shall be able to procure for you, and that it will satisfy all your expenses. We give you notice that the Company's intention is by no means to make war on the Spaniards of Mexico, but on the contrary to trade with them in amity, in order to attract ~~the~~ commerce from your parts of the country. You will govern yourself accordingly in all your enterprises. Your zeal and your past conduct give us reason to believe that you will know how to ^{harmonize} ~~combine~~ your plans with the ^{purposes} ~~interests~~ of the Company, in which we will render you the justice due to your activity and willingness.

"We are very perfectly, Monsieur, your very humble and very obedient servants,

"Devillardeau, Bienville, C. Legac, Hubert."

Special letter of Monsieur de Bienville to Monsieur de La Harpe.

"I have received, Monsieur, the letter which you have done me the kindness to write me from the Nessonites, April 9th, by which I learn that you are satisfied with having ascended as far as the place where you are. One must have all the courage which you possess, to have ~~withstood~~ withstood fatigues so painful. I am greatly obliged to you for the great detail with which you have taken the trouble to write me. You will always give me great pleasure by writing me whenever you shall have occasion ~~therefor~~ therefor. I think that the war which we at present have with the Spaniards should deter you from undertaking to go to New Mexico. I send you the passport or commission which you write me for. You will make use of it, if you think there would not be any ~~xxx~~ danger for you from the Indians allied to the Spaniards. I am persuaded that if you do not succeed in these important discoveries, nobody need undertake it. I write so to the Company and ~~xxx~~ ^{show it how} ~~xxx~~ ^{xxx} important and advantageous ^{for} for the Company it is that you should succeed in them, of your doing which, I do not at all doubt, as I see it from your ability.

"Monsieur Legac has shown me that he has sent the rest of your effects to New Orleans by the ship, ~~de~~ Bellanger, during my sojourn at Pensacola. The war we have with the Spaniards has not permitted me, nor even yet permits me, to go to New Orleans. These gentlemen, the Directors, have found themselves in so great embarrassment since they assembled, that I have not had the time to ~~xxx~~ ^{have} ~~xxx~~ the recompense determined which would be due you for having transported at your own expense, your effects to the place of your concession, for which the Company would be chargeable.

"I see clearly, Monsieur, that you must have at the post where you command, at least a score and a half of soldiers. I ^{am} at this time ^{having} ~~xxx~~ ^{xxx} fifty ^{start for} ~~xxx~~ ^{xxx} New Orleans, and I write to Monsieur Davril that he will please to send them to the Natchitoches for you. The boat which you intrusted to the White Chief to come down, is here; I count upon your sending ^{to us} ~~back~~ this spring, the felucca*. I am so overwhelmed

*A kind of boat, propelled with oars and lateen (triangular) sails, formerly common on the Mediterranean sea. — *F. 1. 1. 2.*

with business, Monsieur, that I have not time to write you also, at the length which I would wish, on all the points of your letters. I have ordered the Sieur Derbanne to write you the detail of our little war.

"I shall wish that peace may ^{with Spain} be made, very soon, both on account of the trade which I doubt not you would establish with them in your regions, and also to get us out of the embarrassments in which we are here on the coast.

Continued

"I wish you, Monsieur, perfect health. I beg you to be ~~xxxx~~ ever assured that I am very perfectly, Monsieur, your humble and very obedient servant.
"Bienville."

"Having learned by the Amédiches Indians that the Spaniards were ~~at~~ gathering in the direction of the Trinity river, that some troops were coming to them, and that their ^{design} ~~plan~~ was to return to the Assinais, I took the course of descending to New Orleans to inform Monsieur de Bienville of all things. As the waters were low, I could take but one medium-sized pirogue, in which I set out on the 27th of the month of October with six men, of whose number was Saint-François, corporal of the garrison. At evening, we stopped at the village of the Cadodaquious.

"On the 28th, having made about 10 leagues down the river, we met ~~xx~~ three pirogues of our Indians, coming from the buffalo hunt. They told me ~~that~~ ^{that} ~~xxxx~~, near the Little river,* they had come across several newly-made ~~xxxx~~ ^{rafts of cane (caneux)}, built by the Tonicaus nation, who are Yasous

Footnote

*It is ~~xxxx~~ the North Little river, that La Harpe thus designates. — V. W. C.
[Yasous], which obliged them to return to their villages.

"On the 29th, at four in the afternoon, we passed ^{the} Little river; ~~xxxx~~ at its mouth; ^{it extends toward} the north-northwest. We followed the left ^{channel} ~~xxxx~~ [of Red river]; ~~xxxx~~ the ^{right} one, which forms ~~xxx~~ ~~xxxx~~ ~~xxxx~~ la grande riviere, being ~~xxxx~~ ^{dried up}, ~~xxxx~~ and forming two islands at ~~xxxx~~ high waters. This river is 20 leagues distant from the Cadodaquious, although by land there are only 8 to 9 leagues*. On the 30th, we espied the ^{cane-rafts} ~~xxxx~~, on which the

~~This is true of the middle part of the river, which is much nearer than its mouth is to the district of the Cadodaquious, since for a considerable distance, this branch of Red river roughly parallels the river itself.~~

Footnote

*This is true of the middle part of Little river, which is much nearer than its mouth is, to the district of the Cadodaquious, since for a considerable distance, Little river roughly parallels Red river itself. — F.W.C.

Tonicaus had crossed the river.

"On the 31st, I fell dangerously ill of a high fever, with delirium.

"On the 1st [of November], a young surgeon ~~xxxx~~ that I had with me, attended me. My reason returned to me a little. We remained in camp. I continued to be afflicted with illness and out of condition to be put down on the ground, so that I was obliged to bed in the canoe. Exposed to wind, rain and cold, stretched on a single buffalo robe, I arrived in this condition, November 21st, at the portage of the Matchitoches, distant from this post, 25 leagues by land and 14 by the

lakes; the river being low and it being impossible to go further by water, I was carried to an abandoned Indian lodge, where I was left with two of my ~~own~~ men, and for all provisions three pounds of corn. The rest of my men went to find supplies, either among the Adayes nations, in case that they should have met them, or clear to the Natchitoches, pending their absence. Our corn having given out, we lived only on live-oak acorns and some wall-pepper*, which reduced me to the

fortunate *Senelles et quelque pourpier sauvage. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
last extremity.

"On the 4th [of December], two of my men arrived from the Natchitoches with some ~~kind~~ provisions. ~~They brought~~ The White Chief with three men of his nation, brought to me the fifty Adayes whom they had taken on their way, to help in making my portage. They found me so feeble and in so bad condition, that they judged it unsuitable to have me leave. These Adayes having examined me and knowing the peril in which I was, sent in haste to find three of their ~~own~~ medicine-men, whom they call sorcerers. This nation is that which is reputed the most expert in this art.

"They arrived at two hours after midnight and commenced by singing me le Cocodrille (sic), and juggling ^{over} me for more than two hours. I was so dejected that I did not pay any attention to all these extravagances, being excessively bloated. They put me naked on the ground, stretched on a buffalo-robe, and then these medicine men sucked on all the most afflicted portions of my body; I felt myself a little relieved by it.

"On the 5th, they brought me a litter, or rather a ladder, on which they carried me upon their shoulders. This situation was so painful to me that they were all day in conveying me to a creek which flowed down to the lake, although there was thither only a league and a half of travel in a south-southwesterly direction.

"On the 6th, I embarked in a little pirogue. We made 4 leagues ~~before~~ before arriving at some Adayes houses, where these nations were at the time engaged in harvesting potatoes and plaquemines, of which fruit they make a sort of bread. The Indians who conducted me down the ~~river~~ creek, had incredible difficulty in making the pirogue pass, by reason of the overturned trees. They were often obliged to carry it over the trees. As regards the others, they followed the route by land, it being shorter. It is ^{to be remarked} ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ that these nations inhabit this place only at the times of low waters, the country being flooded at high waters.

"On the 7th, they embarked me in a pirogue a little larger than the preceding one. We crossed several lakes, and after having made 10 leagues, we arrived at the portage of the Natchitoches, at 2 leagues from this post.

"On the 8th, Monsieur Blondel arrived before me with ³⁰ Indians. They ~~made~~ ^{made} another litter, on which they carried me to within a pistol-shot of the fort, where I arrived shortly afterward in a pirogue. I reckon that all these portages have cost more than 40 pistoles.

"~~My~~ Change of food somewhat restored my health and put me in condition to consider leaving for New Orleans.

"I learned at this post a certain circumstance about the expedition of Monsieur Blondel with reference to the mission of the Adayes. — I was affected by it, finding it contrary to the purposes of the Company. — I made Monsieur Blondel see the consequence of this proceeding, and that it was important that the Spaniards should be established near our posts, by reason of the trade and of the live-stock which we could get from them; that, moreover, these missionaries were not in ~~such~~ condition to do us the least shadow of injury, that they had always rendered us service and had performed the office of curates at the fort. Thereupon, Monsieur Blondel assured me that he had been to ~~XX~~ the Adayes only with the aim of preserving this mission against the attempts of the Indians, who, knowing the rupture that existed between us, would not have failed to destroy it, but that these Fathers, not knowing our intentions, had fled thence precipitously, having abandoned the sacred vessels, ^{and other property,} which the Indians ^{would have} seized. — Under these circumstances, I induced ^{him} to convey to these Fathers a letter, ~~XXX~~ which I dictated to him in the Spanish language, of which the following is the tenor:

"My Reverend father,

"The ~~most perfect~~ ^{perfect} veneration that I have for Your Reverence, added to the ~~highest regard~~ ^{highest regard} which I have for the Spanish nation, has made me feel painfully the rupture between our two nations. The blood ~~XX~~ which unites them and the greatness of spirit of the princes who ~~rule~~ ^{rule} us, ought to make us hope for a perfect union in a little while. Animated with these sentiments, I repaired to your mission of the Adayes, with the object of assuring Your Reverence against the malignity of our Indians, and of sustaining and protecting the missions, of which you are the worthy pastor. — I had the misfortune of not meeting you there, but only the brother Manuel, who, ~~is~~ unwilling to trust himself to my promises, fled, abandoning the mission with the sacred vessels, and certain ^{effects of} ~~property~~ ^{property} which I took possession, from fear lest they would have been profaned and pillaged by the idolaters.